Games for All Make Christmas Family Party

Christmas is the time for family get-togethers. One of the best ways to make these gatherings memorable for all concerned is to engage in games which the whole group can play.

A nice one to start off with would be a Sugar Plum Hunt. Have one member of the family hide Christmas candies ahead of time in various nooks and corners around the house. At a given signal everyone starts hunting and gathering the pieces. The one who gathers the greatest number would be given a prize.

The Christmas Puzzle is another good one to get things going. Look through some magazines, which are filled with pictures of Santa Claus at this time of year. Cut out enough of these to go around, paste them on stiff cardboard, and cut them into pieces. Then put each group of pieces in a separate paper bag. At the signal, everyone opens a bag and starts putting the puzzle together.

The Xmas Scramble Contest is good for a group with older children in it. This is simply a contest to see who can unscramble a group of words the fastest. Just for fun, see if you can work out the following—

astna, erireden, ehsgil, dynca, gosiknct, ertc, trepean, hupno, alsorc, and niborb.

Eisenhower Club is set up in Winchester.

CHRISTMAS QUESTION CORNER

QUESTIONS?

1—Who was Kris Kringle?
2—What does the name Kris Kringle mean?
3—Who wrote the first Christmas Carols? When?
4—What superstition had the Scotch about the Christmas candle?
5—By what other name is mistletoe known?
6—Where did the custom of kissing under the mistletoe begin?
7—When were Christmas candles first used?
8—How long has the practice of gift giving at Christmas been observed?
9—How did the custom of hanging Xmas stockings originate?
10—Why are candles used during the Christmas season?

ANSWERS

1. Santa Claus, helper. 2. "Little Christ Child." 3. Francis of Assisi, during the 13th century. 4. It was considered an omen of bad fortune if the candle went out before midnight. 5. Holly. 6. In the middle ages—at the Jewish "Feast of Lights." 8. Since the fourth century. 9. St. Nick once dropped a bag of gold down the chimney of a poor family. It landed in a stocking that had been hung to dry. 10. At symbols of the star of Bethlehem.

Dial 2811 with Personals.

ROSEMARY... for Remembrance

The rosemary shrub, symbol of fidelity and constancy, was once supposed to possess many occult virtues. Hamlet's Ophelia said, "There's rosemary, that's for remembrance." The last that rosemary blooms at Christmas has introduced it into celebration of this feast.

Rosemary, according to one legend, opened to hide the Virgin Mary and her child from the soldiers of Herod, a legend shared with the juniper and other trees.

Another legend says that, during the flight to Egypt, Mary threw her blue cloak over a bush of rosemary when the lay down to rest. Ever since, in her honor, the flowers have been the heavenly blue of the mantle.

CHRISTMAS LECTURE . . .
"Now this is a Christmas tree," big brother appears to be telling the toddler. "It grows in the living room only once a year, and it always has a lot of nice presents under it."

Ancient Church Bells Still Summon Village

A pair of ancient church bells, brought to Frankenmuth, Mich. from Bavaria shortly after Frankenmuth was founded as an Indian mission, has been calling the congregation of St. Lorenz to Christmas eve services for more than a 100 years.

Ninety-five per cent of the residents of the small community are members of the church, naming the village the title of "the most Christian community in the United States."

Frankenmuth has never had a crime of violence, and, as far as residents can remember, no one has been jailed over a period of 25 years. The only visitors to the lockup were transients given a night's lodging.

HAILING NEWBORN KING . . . Carol Singing Time . . .

Denmark Pays Homage To Hans Anderson— Santa's Best Helper

LAST YEAR a festival in Denmark paid tribute to one of the greatest helpers Santa Claus ever had. He was Hans Christian Anderson, fairy tale writer, and composer of many Christmas stories.

His works have sold more copies than any other book, except the Bible, and have been translated into 35 languages, including Arabic, Hebrew, Chinese, Japanese, and Greenlandish.

Since 1875, the year that he passed away, visitors from all parts of the world have come yearly to the town

of Odense to see the home of the writer of such tales as "The Little Match Girl," and "The Ugly Duckling."

Anderson's fairy tales, released just before Christmas each year, brought him money, fame and the attention of princes, as well as the adoration of children.

Once he received a United States dollar bill, enclosed in a letter written by a young American girl. It read: "Papa says that the dollar is my own, that he does not suppose you are in particular need of money but since I owe you this and a great deal more, he thinks it proper that I should send it to you."

England Once Forbade Christmas Observance

Did you know that the observance of Christmas was once forbidden in England—that of the Yule Log, the Carol-singer and the wassailers?

During the Reformation many believed the undue jollity of Christmas day was sacrilegious. Parliament, on December 24, 1652, ordered that "no observance shall be held of the five and twentieth day of December, commonly called Christmas day; nor any solemnity used or exercised in churches upon that day in respect thereof."

This edict proved to be very unpopular with the masses of the people. It was not until many years later, however, that Christmas was once again regarded as a holiday.

BEMOAN PASSING OF BUCKWHEAT CAKES AND SORGHUM

The State Department of Agriculture has found a dark spot in the beautiful sunshine of farm prosperity.

It has all but dried up the makings of that famous Virginia farm breakfast of buckwheat cakes, sorghum syrup and sausage.

The Department figures that today's farmer just hasn't got the time to tend a field of sorghum, squeeze the stalks and cook the drippings into yesterday's delicacy. He is better off tending his cash crops and buying some cane syrup in the can.

The modern farmer also figures that it isn't worth the trouble to grow the buckwheat he uses. Before and let it rise in the night for consistency for frying, as his mother did.

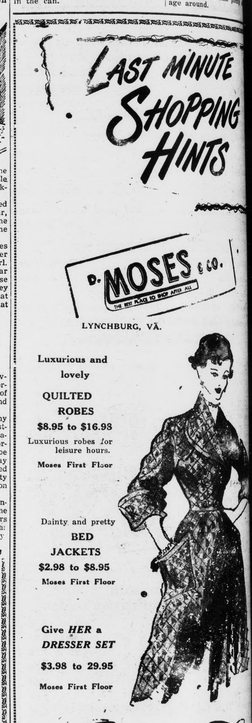
If the must have buckwheat cakes there is always a package in the grocery store shelf.

The Department's Division of Markets discovered the passing of affairs when a few days ago, with fond memories of days gone by, ing to know where they could get some "good old fashioned sorghum syrup."

However, the Department of Markets mustered a smile to end the tale. There is still plenty of sorghum age around.

GIVE A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE

Times - Virginian



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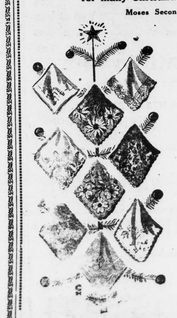

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Carver High School

Hello, Readers!

As we can see from the drawings, paintings and other decorations that the entire student body has the Christmas spirit. Santa will really be here.

The proofs of the Seniors were sent by them Tuesday. They were very good, too. The many pictures were eaten by our worthy Seniors and that they deserve to be really framed at."

The eleventh graders were glad to have a former classmate, Betty Jo Flood, of Baltimore visit them today.

The Junior girls are busy helping Miss Elliott decorate the home economics department for the holidays.

The sixth grade class is glad to welcome William Lipford back after a long illness. He is on the beam now.

Last Friday at Mt. Airy school, the sixth grade had a dance. They wish to thank the students for coming. This, too, was for the Charity Contest.

The eighth grade wonders why the Personian Democracy is being held in History II.

The tobacco rally is over. We could see the pleasant aroma floating up from the shop this week. The contributors totaled 102 separate farm families in the county. The wrappers are now taken to market to be sold on Tuesday. Many thanks to all who participated.

There will be a broadcast over station WLVA at 12:45, as a feature of the Farm Program, December 20, with Eric Lund as reporter. Mr. Lund visited the school on last week making arrangements for the broadcast. Featured will be all organizations, and music by a special rhythm group. Tape recording will be done here at the school December 19.

The competitors in the Science Achievement Contest have begun their research work. Topics for research sound interesting.

The winds up our news for the week. Until next Friday, our motto: "Today the whole Christian world prostrates itself in adoration before the crib of Bethlehem and kneels in accents of love a hisher which precedes all time and endure throughout eternity."

WEST HONORED COMMISSION

Mr. West, supervising game warden from the Tidewater District, is due to retire in the near future. He was honored at a gift presentation ceremony in the office of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries on December 4, by members of the law enforcement division and other members of the Commission, for his 26 years of warden service.

The presentation took place in the Commission's hearing room in Richmond. M. W. Kesterson, chief of the Commission's law enforcement division, introduced Congressman Watkins M. Abbitt, of Appomattox, who, after an appropriate and fitting address, presented to Mr. West a gold watch from the retired wardens of the Tidewater District, and a beautiful silver service from Mr. Kesterson, the supervising wardens, and the wardens of Mr. West's staff.

IT'S LITTLE WONDER that Saint Nick is especially generous to the American people. History proves that the Americans have done a lot for Saint Nick!

They have given him a new name, a new face and figure, and a few means of transportation.

The original European version of Saint Nick pictured him as a tall angular man who rode on a bony gray mare. Both the horse and Saint Nick looked as if they hadn't had a good meal in some time.

The early English settlers in this country started giving Saint Nicholas his "New Look." The English children adopted the legendary Christmas figure from the Dutch, but the English children had trouble pronouncing "Saint Nickolous." Somehow the name changed to "Santa Kalouf," and finally it was corrupted to "Santa Claus."

However, this was only the beginning. In 1809 Washington Irving, in his "Knickerbocker's History of New York," wrote of the Saint as the guardian of New York City. Irving described Saint Nick as a jolly fellow with a broad-brimmed hat and huge breeches. He taught Saint Nick to smoke a long pipe, and, in the story, replaced his shuffling hay-burner with a trim wagon.

A short time later, Saint Nicholas' transportation was aided by Clement Moore in his famous poem: "The Visit from Saint Nicholas," written in 1882. Moore, a professor of divinity in a New York theological seminary, gave Saint Nick a sleigh, twinkling eyes, cheeks like roses, nose like a cherry, and a round little belly.

Today's Santa Claus is by no means streamlined, but he is a far cry from the lean, ascetic, somberly dressed fellow who, for centuries, on Christmas Eve, guided his mare through the streets of Europe.

-NOTICE-

Beginning this Sunday
December 16th
We will be closed all day Sundays

This is necessary to curtail hours due to labor shortage

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CONTRIBUTION

Joel Poinsett, U.S. Statesman, Famed for Flower

Although he was a brilliant statesman, and the friend of four American presidents, Joel Roberts Poinsett is famous chiefly because he introduced the Mexican plant known as the "Painted Leaf", or "Mexican Fire Plant" into the United States.

Poinsett, then U. S. ambassador to Mexico, called the plant to the attention of American botanists and grew the plant himself as a hobby at his South Carolina home, after he left Mexico.

The plant grew heavily in American favor—especially popular at Christmas time—and was renamed poinsettia, in honor of the man who brought it to this country.

Contrary to popular impression, the flaming red bracts of the poinsettia are not flowers, but leaves, and it is for these bracts that the plants are grown.

It is possible to have variations of either pink or white varieties, as well as the more usual red. Popular because it carries out the holiday season theme of rich bright red with a contrast of the dark green of the leaves.

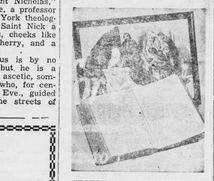
The beautiful poinsettia, almost a "must" as far as Christmas decorating is concerned, is one of the most temperamental of plants.

The poinsettia thrives in its native Mexico, but elsewhere must be handled carefully—perhaps pampered slightly. However, the brilliantly colored flowers it has at Christmas time is reward enough for any efforts needed to make the plant thrive.

Constant warmth is needed by poinsettias. Temperatures should be kept between 70 and 80 degrees during the day and no less than 65 degrees at night. Any sudden change in temperature and drafts will cause the plant to drop its leaves.

Abundant water is also a necessity, but it should be applied but once a day so that the plant may become moderately dry between waterings. This permits needed oxygen to reach the roots.

Try to give the poinsettia the sunniest spot available. It is wise to fertilize it occasionally with a good commercial food tablet.



STABLE AT BETHLEHEM . . . The shepherds "came with haste and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger."

Cedars of Lebanon Are Well Protected By Religion, Law

On a shelf-like plateau, 600 feet above the Mediterranean, the world's oldest Christmas trees stand where they have stood for centuries. The cedars of Lebanon, 400 of them, are protected by religion and law from harm at the hands of either the Moslems or the Maronite Christians.

The magnificent trees "that sing of the naivity" were venerated as monarchs among trees long before Judah had her first king. Some of them have a girth of 40 feet and a branch circumference of 300.

In the days of the conquerors thousands of conscripted Hebrew workers were sent into the Lebanons to take to Jerusalem "cedar trees without number"; the result of one of the first building contracts between Hiram of Phoenecia and King Solomon.

Today, however, the trees are protected by law and the department of agriculture of the government sponsors the planting of seedlings, so that the giant cedars will grow forever

REFINEMENTS FEATURED IN 1952 CHRYSLER

Refiements throughout the line, rather than revolutionary engineering innovations, characterize Chrysler's 1952 models, which will be on display in dealers' showrooms throughout the country December 14. There are two fundamental reasons why changes are less sweeping than generally is the case with the introduction of a new Chrysler line, it is explained by Joseph A. O'Malley, general sales manager of Chrysler Division, Chrysler Corporation.

"The demands of the rearmament program have created a situation in the machine tool industry that would preclude the extensive tooling program entailed by drastic model changes," says Mr. O'Malley. "Furthermore, Chrysler introduced more important new features in its 1951 line than ever before were offered by any manufacturer in a single year. These included the 180-horsepower V-8 Firepower engine, Hydraguide power steering, Oriflow shock absorbers and Fluid-Torque Drive torque converter.

"The tremendous public reception of the 1951 cars, plus the shortage of materials, prevented our coming anywhere filling the demand for them this year and we carry into 1952 a bank of orders that will be augmented by the improvements in our new line. We believe that the current vehicles are far ahead of the times."

The new 1952 Chrysler will be on display here Friday and Saturday at the new building of the Lewis Motor Co., two miles east of Appomattox, on Route 460. This building is not completed as yet, but the firm decided to show the new model Chrysler there due to the more adequate show room. The public is invited to visit their display Friday and Saturday.

St. Francis Made First Crib in Cave

St. Francis of Assisi is believed to have originated the custom of displaying the Christ Child in a crib at Christmas time.

He is reported once to have said to one of his followers: "I wish to celebrate holy Christmas night with you. In the woods near the cloister you will find a cave where we shall arrange a manger filled with hay. We shall have an ox and an ass just as at Bethlehem. I wish to see how poor and miserable the Infant Saviour became for us.

So at midnight, in the small Italian village of Garcia, in the year 1200, St. Francis and his followers celebrated mass at the cave and sang hymns in honor of the Christ Child.

AN AGE-OLD STORY RETOLD . . . "She brought forth her first-born Son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger."

'Christkindli' Is Swiss Counterpart of Santa

Santa Claus plays a very insignificant part in the Swiss celebration of Christmas, observed mostly on December 24. It is Christkindli, the Christ Child, who makes the rounds of Swiss homes on Christmas Eve.

This radiant angel is said to have come from the North, traveling on a fairy-like sleigh pulled by reindeer, much in the fashion of our Santa. Christkindli brings good Swiss children a beautiful tree, and many gifts. Like Santa, he stresses obedience and admonishes naughty youngsters.

Byrd sees Soviet "bleeding" U. S. for many years to come.

Reds ask for more concessions in cease-fire talks.

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